

SECOND

2
ISSUE

ACCESS ALL AREAS



Exclusive

Supernatural set visit

SUPERNATURAL

M A G A Z I N E

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DEAN
MORGAN

On life
as John
Winchester

NIGHT OF THE HUNTER

Exclusive Jared Padalecki
interview!



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Issue #2

FEBRUARY 2008

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WELCOME!

SUPERNATURAL



Supernatural hooked me virtually straight away. It was Dean's "Agent Mulder, Agent Scully" line that did it. I was already immensely enjoying the pilot, but this throwaway comment, delivered with the deadpan panache that has become Jensen Ackles' trademark, made me laugh out loud. And any show that has me chuckling one moment – and hiding behind the sofa in terror the next – is must-see TV in my book.

Why am I telling you this? Because here at The Official Supernatural Magazine we want to hear all about the moment that you fell in love with the show. We also want to know what you like about season three so far. And, just as importantly, what you don't like. As Supernatural creator Eric Kripke stated in his introduction last issue, one of our sins with this publication is to encourage an open forum. A place where you can write in and tell us your thoughts about literally anything Supernatural-related. And remember, we don't want you to hold back if you're annoyed about something. Not only do the Supernatural production team value your opinion and want to hear what you have to say, they've promised to respond to your queries, concerns, and bugbears through these very pages. So whether you're blue about Bela or grieving over Gordon, write in and let us – and them – know.

Right, that's quite enough from me. I very much hope you enjoy the issue, and a belated Happy New Year to you all.
Kris Lloyd, Editor

"A BELATED HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL"

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A haunted station wagon and a creepy closet give the boys pause for thought!



JARED PADALECKI: BEING JARED PADALECKI

The actor behind the younger Winchester brother reveals how he and Jensen Ackles hit it off immediately, what he gets up to in his spare time, and why things often go bump in the night on the *Supernatural* set.

Go behind the scenes on *Supernatural*



From Ash to zombies, it's our *Supernatural* A-Z...

SUPERNATURAL
MAGAZINE

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NEWS & VIEWS

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The Winchester brothers may have no fixed address, but *The Official Supernatural Magazine* does, and we want your letters!



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In an exclusive interview with *The Official Supernatural Magazine's* editor Jeffrey Dean Morgan reveals why, even in death, John's legacy lives on.



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Until his brutal death in season three's *Fresh Blood*, Gordon Walker was a constant thorn in the side of the Winchester brothers. Actor Sterling K. Brown chats about the demons that drove this most vicious of hunters.

48 LAUREN COHAN: TO CATCH A THIEF

As the beautiful but corrupt Bela, Lauren Cohan is causing the Winchester brothers no end of trouble in *Supernatural's* third season. The Philadelphia-born actress reveals what makes this cunning thief tick.

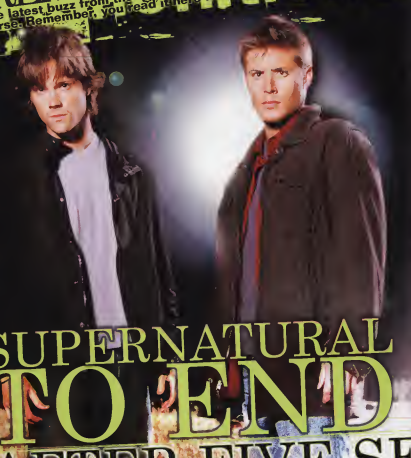
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From the snelly reclusive Ash to rampaging zombies, the *Supernatural* universe is a weird and wonderful place. Here, in handy A-Z format, we present the ultimate guide to Sam and Dean's world...

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news PREMONITIONS

All the latest buzz from the *Supernatural* universe. Remember, you read it here first.



SUPERNATURAL TO END AFTER FIVE SEASONS

Eric Kripke reveals five-year plan to ensure show goes

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In an announcement that will come as a surprise to many, *Supernatural* creator Eric Kripke has revealed that he would be happy to see the show conclude after five seasons. In a recent interview with *The Official Supernatural Magazine*, the showrunner declared: "We have a plan in place for five seasons. After that, who knows? Personally, I want the show to end with season five. When you're telling a story, it's so much better to know when the end is coming so you can plan for it and build to it."

Although this news will come as a bitter blow to fans (the majority of whom would like to see *Supernatural* run and run), Kripke's reasoning is that this way the show will go out on top. "If *Supernatural* goes into season six, seven, and beyond, you can expect a lot of weddings, clip shows, Hawaii vacations, and other shirk-jumping activities," the creator continues with a chuckle. "But I think Jared, Jensen, Ico-showrunner! Bob Singer, and I, would rather go out with a bang with season five, and then go home and sleep for a year."

As Kripke is well aware, however, even the best-laid plans can go awry — especially if they're thrown a curveball in the form of a nationwide writers' strike. As this magazine went to press, the *Supernatural* writing team (which includes Eric Kripke), along with every other TV, movie, and radio writer in America, have stopped writing at the behest of the Writers Guild of America (WGA).

The Writers Guild, which has more than 12,000 members, is striking over residuals for new media, specifically Internet downloads. This downing of tools has led to late night chat shows such as *Late Show With David Letterman* closing up shop, with industry experts predicting that all weekly dramas would soon follow, should no deal be struck. The last such strike, in 1998, lasted 22 weeks and cost the industry an estimated \$500 million dollars.

As with every writer in America, it's a situation that Kripke is keen to see resolved, and quickly. When asked about the second half of season three, he could say only this: "Difficult to answer that, sadly, because at the moment the Writers Guild is on strike, and the longer it continues, the greater the danger that there won't BE a second half of season three. All of the writers and producers are dependent over this. We love the show and the only thing we want is to get back to work."

Here's hoping that by the time you read this, Eric Kripke's wish will have come true, and our favorite shows will be back where they belong!

For more from Eric, turn to page 63

SEASONS?

re show goes out on a high...

THE ROAD SO FAR



THE ROAD SO FAR

Track the Winchester brothers' epic journey! In issue #1 of *The Official Supernatural Magazine*, we unveiled an extra special subscription offer whereby subscribers not only get six issues of the magazine delivered direct to their door, but also a specially designed map of the United States featuring key landmarks from the show, as well as 10 beautifully-drawn stickers (illustrated by CreatureBox). Now we don't want to harp on about this too much (after all, this is a news page, not an advertorial), but we're pretty excited about the map here, and wanted to give you a sneaky peek at what you can expect, as it wasn't quite ready last issue. Nice, huh?

SUBSCRIPTION INFO

For more information call toll free at 1 877 362 1212 or visit www.supernaturalmag.com For more info about the phenomenal *Supernatural* giveaway, you can also email supernaturalmag@earthlink.net. What are you waiting for? Join the hunt today.



Sam and Dean always have a large supply of holy water to hand. Here's the reason...

Mostly used in baptisms and blessings, holy water is also a powerful weapon when it comes to fighting the forces of darkness. Although it doesn't kill demons, holy water will burn evil entities and cause them great pain. For water to qualify as holy water, it needs to be blessed by a priest, deacon or bishop (usually of the Catholic faith). The use of holy water for interior cleansing (and bottling evil) dates back to the time of the Apostles.

LOCKED #2 AND LOADED DEVIL'S TRAP

Each episode we take
a look at a Wiccan-style
weapon of choice.

Okay, so it's not a weapon
as such, but this mystical
symbol, which has the ability
to immobilize and control
demons, has saved Sam and Dean's bacon
on more occasions than the brothers care
to remember. Originating from the book
The Lesser Key Of Solomon The King, an
enormous 17th century grimoire about
demonology, these traps usually consist
of two pentagrams overlapping each other,
with Latin rites scrawled around a circular
edge. Once a demon is caught in a devil's
trap, it can be easily exorcised, as was the
case with Cassidy in the episode *Sin City*.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

THIS ISSUE: MISSY BENDER

Memorable *Supernatural*
guest stars hunted down...

Following her score-stealing
turn as the seemingly sweet but
actually bloody terrifying Missy in
Supernatural's first season episode

The Benders, *Alxiss Fest* has had no end of
work offers. Not only did she play Marilyn in the
Masters Of Horror installment, *We All Scream*
For Ice Cream, she also starred as Lindsey
Hammond for three episodes of *The 4400*, and
can next be seen in the family TV movie *Left*
Coast in which she takes top billing as
Bronwyn. This is obviously a youngster
with a very bright future in front of her!

NEWS



Jeffrey Dean
Morgan has
been a very busy
man since we
last saw him in
the season two finale,
All Hell Breaks Loose.
He has an incredible four
films in different stages
of development! If you're
a big Jeffrey fan and want
to track down the films,
they're called: *The*
Adventures Of Beatie
Boyin, *Watchmen*,
Days Of Wrath, and
The Accidental Husband.



Katie Cassidy
has been cast
in the movie
remake of the popular
1980s soap, *Dallas*,
alongside John Travolta.
Katie will play Lucy
Ewing, a.k.a. the Poison
Dwarf, while Travolta
takes the role of the
dastardly J.R. The
film is scheduled for
a 2009 release.



Jared Padalecki
has wrapped
filming on his
latest movie,
Thomas Kinkadee's Home
For Christmas. Starring
Jared as Thomas, the film
looks at the inspirations
and motivations that drove
the famous artist to paint
"The Christmas Cottage."
The film has yet to be given
an official release date, but
we'll keep you posted.

BITES

TOP FIVE

...SAM AND DEAN DISGUISES

1. Jailbirds - *Folsom Prison Blues*

As a favor to a buddy of their dad's, Sam and Dean engineer their own arrest to go ghost-busting at the Green River County Detention Center. Typically, Dean - who obviously thinks he's Steve McQueen in *The Great Escape* - fits right in.



SHIT HAPPY



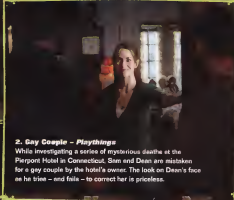
Because you can never have too many pictures of Dean and his baby...

4. Weekly World News Reporters - *Bloodlust*

This disguise would have been more convincing if Dean had managed to get the name of the paper right. Sigh!

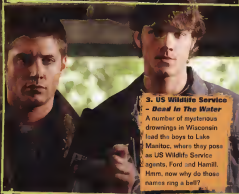
2. Gay Couple - *Playthings*

While investigating a series of mysterious deaths at the Pierpont Hotel in Connecticut, Sam and Dean are mistaken for a gay couple by the hotel's owner. The look on Dean's face as he tries - and fails - to correct her is priceless.



3. US Wildlife Service - *Dead in the Water*

A number of mysterious drownings in Wisconsin lead the boys to Lake Manitowish, where they pose as US Wildlife Service agents, Ford and Hamill. Hmm, now why do those names ring a bell?



5. Catholic Priests - *Nightmare*

Sam and Dean are hot to trot at the best of times, but with the added bonus of dog collars? Yowza! Check out the season one DVD bloopers for an altogether different take on this look - you won't be disappointed!





INTERVIEW
JARED
PADALECKI

BEING

JARED

Words: Nicholas Knight

Right from the start, *Supernatural* creator Eric Kripke made it easy for Jared Padalecki to settle into the role of Sam Winchester. "My first impression of Eric was that his commitment was absolute," recalls Padalecki, when asked to cast his mind back to those first few weeks of filming. "He's in love with the show, he's in love with the characters, and he's in love with the mythology. He always says he's a student of Joseph Campbell, who's [basically] the father of mythology. That's what stuck out to me the most - his commitment to the story and to *Supernatural*."

Another obvious reason why Padalecki felt at home so quickly is his relationship with Jensen Ackles, who plays his onscreen brother, Dean. It's common knowledge that the actors are both from Texas, and that certainly helped them relate to one another, but their personal relationships with their real-life siblings is arguably what truly set the foundation for their friendship.

"I have an older brother and a younger sister. And Jensen has an older brother and a younger sister as well," Padalecki points out. "My brother and I are super close. When Dean and Sam get along, that's how my brother and I get along. We definitely tease each other. My brother and I will rib each other all the time, but there are no punches thrown. It's pretty laid back."

"I think the reason Jensen and I get along so well was because we didn't really go about bonding," Padalecki



continue. "It didn't feel like a blind date. It felt like we were continuing a relationship as opposed to saying, 'All right, we're supposed to hang out with each other, so let's go play basketball or something.' We just sort of hung out. It was really lucky. We just hit it off immediately. There's no rhyme or reason to what happened."

Padalecki and Ackles' strong bond not only makes life on set enjoyable for the actors, but also the 100-strong production team that helps put the show together each week, too.

"I'd rather get along with somebody than not, and Jensen's the same way," Padalecki admits. "If we don't get along, then 125 crew members are miserable, and the show sucks. It's very flattering, because we'll have guest stars and guest directors come to do the show, and they're like, 'Man, y'all get along so well. Everything's so fun. We come to the set and y'all are having a good time and laughing.' We just want to work hard and make sure our crew is happy."

In an exclusive interview with *The Official Supernatural Magazine*, the actor behind the younger Winchester brother reveals how he and Jensen Ackles hit it off immediately, what he gets up to in his spare time, and why things often go bump in the night on the *Supernatural* set...

JARED PADALECKI



The actors do work hard — very hard — but whenever they get the chance, they like to hang out off set. “When we can, we love to go out and have a drink, watch football, or catch a hockey game now that we’re in Canada,” Padalecki reveals. “Growing up in Texas, there weren’t a whole lot of opportunities to see hockey games. But, yeah, whenever we get the chance, we’ll hang out, play basketball or work out or something...”

Padalecki loves working in Vancouver, but bemoans the fact that he can’t truly reap the benefits of living there. “It’s a bit of a double-edged sword, because you’re in this fantastic city and you want to go do something, but you’re working so much that you can’t. It’s frustrating.”

Family Man

Whenever Padalecki does get a rare free moment, enjoying the *stills* of Vancouver isn’t the first thing that comes to mind. That honor goes to his family, who are much too far away for the actor’s liking.

“I remember I had a conversation with my father one time, and he said, ‘Well, can’t you just call me for five minutes?’ And I was like, ‘I don’t want to just call you for five minutes. If I’m calling my father, I want to talk to you for a while. You know what I mean? I want to know how your life is going and have a good hour conversation at least.’”

“The other thing is, on set, even though you have 20 minutes here and 10 minutes there, you’re still in character,” Padalecki continues. “It’s a three-page scene, and you have to remember where your character goes during the scene, so you don’t want to be like, ‘Cut. Okay. Anyways, Dad, blah, blah, blah.’ And then it’s like, ‘Oh, and back to the set.’ Then you’re all disappointed and you end up putting bad work on film. There’s a famous saying that goes along the lines of, ‘You act for free’; you get paid to wait. In a 14-hour day on set, you’re waiting a lot, but you can’t just go running around like a chicken with its head cut off. You have to keep in character, and you use that time to try and make the scene better, not make phone calls and stuff. So, when I’m working, I definitely put everything else on hold.”

That “everything else” includes Padalecki’s love life, although the actor still tries to see his longtime girlfriend, Sandra McCoy, whenever possible. “She and I visit as much as we can,” he discloses. “I’ll come back to L.A. on the weekends, or she’ll come up to Vancouver. But it’s not as easy as it could be.”

Padalecki and McCoy met on the set of the movie *Cry Wolf*, and while they enjoyed working together at first, they have differing views about repeating the experience.

“I’d like to, but I think she probably doesn’t feel the same. I think she’s like, ‘You do your thing, I’ll do my thing.’ It’s definitely not as easy as it was when I was on *Gilmore Girls* and living five miles away from her, but we make it work.”

Spending time with his girlfriend, chilling with his friends and family,

SAM'S BEST BITS

POOL RESCUE

(*Playthings*, 2/13)

Sam has never been more heroic than when he dived into the Pierpont Hotel’s pool to rescue little Tyler.

FANGS FOR THE MEMORY

(*Heart*, 2/17)

Although she begs him to do it, Sam demonstrates the strength of 10 men when he kills werewolf lover Madison.

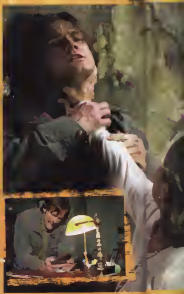
SHOOTING JAKE (All Hell Breaks Loose, Pt. 2, 2/23)

Sam shows absolutely no remorse when he pumps seven bullets into fellow foot soldier Jake. Well, he did sever Sammy’s spinal chord...

ONCE UPON A TIME

(*Bedtime Stories*, 3/05)

Although Dean goes head to head with the Big Bad Wolf, it’s actually Sam who ensures this episode has a happy ending when he persuades Dr. Garrison to believe what daughter Callie has to say.



JARED WAS #2 WHEN HE ATTEMPTED HIS FIRST ACTING CLASS.



AND HIS WORST...

"I LOST MY SHOE."
(*Bad Day At Black Rock*, 3/03)
As Sam attempts to remove the gun from the sole of his shoe, it falls down a drain. His face when Dean turns to look at him is desperately cute and desperately pathetic all at once...

Don't agree with our choices?
Email your favorite Sam moments
to supernaturalmag@titanemail.com



hanging out with Aricles. all these things take time away from something else that Padalecki loves—sleep. “I really like to sleep,” he chuckles. “That’s the first thing that comes to mind because that’s what I’m most deprived of! I remember I used to watch my father go to sleep watching television and I was like, ‘How can you sleep? It’s not even dark in here!’”

But now Padalecki understands what long hours of work can do to a person. “There’s been a lot of self-discovery, both through playing the role and through the nature of the show we shoot. I’m sort of living life like Sam. I don’t really know what’s coming up in the next week or two and I’m living in a place I’m unfamiliar with, away from my friends and family. You learn a lot about yourself because you don’t have your normal vices so readily available and you’re working so hard. I’ve actually learned—pleasantly—that I’m capable of working a lot harder than I thought I was, because we’re working crazy hours and doing crazy, crazy things. I found that I am up for it, so that’s been very good.”

Despite his busy schedule, one very important thing that Padalecki tries to always make time for is exercise. “I grew up with an older brother, wrestling all the time,” he mentions. “Jensen and I have done a little bit of fight training and boxing, and I like to work out and keep myself busy. I find that if I don’t work out, I have too much energy and I’m kind of annoying. I need to run in the morning and lift weights.”



Green Screen

For Padalecki, keeping in shape isn’t the most challenging aspect of working on *Supernatural*. “It’s definitely the green screen,” the actor states, “It’s one thing to sit and talk to somebody and have a conversation—I’ve done movies and plays where you’re performing a monologue, and that’s always easy. But when they say, ‘Right, look at this wall. This X mark is the face of a visual effect that we haven’t made yet, so you’re just going to have to imagine something scary—that’s definitely the hardest part. It’s not like pulling teeth or anything, but it’s definitely weird. I always find myself thinking, ‘I hope they make this thing look scary because I’m going to act scared, so I hope they don’t sell me out.’”

Over the years, Padalecki has come to increasingly admire the technical aspects of horror filmmaking. “It’s weird,” he says. “I always grew up watching TV and

movies and enjoying them very much, but as I’ve grown more successful in this business, I’ve grown more appreciative of how TV and films are made. I find myself thinking, ‘That was a nice shot,’ or ‘How’d they pull off that effect?’”

Of course, behind the scenes of a show like *Supernatural*, it would only seem natural that strange things would happen, and Padalecki confirms that there are inexplicable things going on in the shadows. “You always say, ‘Oh, it’s just a breeze,’” he laughs. “But I remember one time we were shooting an episode called *Skin*, which is one of my favorites. We were filming in this house, and there was a clock on the wall and it just fell off and everybody was looking around and all the crew guys were like, ‘All right, back to work!’ When things like that happen, you just don’t want to look any further into it, you know?”



JARED'S FAVORITE FLAVOR OF ICE CREAM IS CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIE DOUGH.



SAM I AM

Classic quotes from the younger Winchester...

(To Dean) "Dude, I'm not enabling your sick habit. You're like one of those lab rats that pushes the pleasure button instead of the food button until it dies."

Dean: "What's a PA?"

Sam: "I think it's kind of like a slave."

Sam: "Why'd you let me fall asleep?"

Dean: "Because I am an awesome brother. What did you dream about?"

Sam: "Lollipops and candy canes."

41

NEXT ISSUE:
WE GET UP CLOSE
AND PERSONAL WITH
JENSEN ACKLES!

BET REPORT
BEHIND
THE SCENES

PAINT



PLAN

17

tales from the supernatural

PAINT

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In late 2007, *The Official Supernatural Magazine's* NICHOLAS KNIGHT was lucky enough to spend a day on the *Supernatural* set. In his own words, our roving reporter recounts the experience, which included quickfire question-and-answer sessions with several key members of the crew...



← MURAL
NOT ENTIRE BUILDING
3 x 10



ART

CONSTRUCTION

Build out kitchen
Down 10' (2' to floor)
Install floor

SET PER

Telephone Booth

25' x 25' BUILDING FLOOR

VERIFIED

25' x 25'

25' x 25'

Supernatural set

MORE TO COME

10/20 4PM
MORE TO COME
10/22 PM



SUPERNATURAL



LOU BOLLO,

STUNT COORDINATOR

NK: What are you working on today?

LB: Today we're just doing some prep on the Christmas episode, getting some doubles for that. It's the first Christmas episode we've ever done. It's really quite funny and quite macabre at the same time, because we've got a badass Santa who is killing people and pulling them up chimneys and tearing them apart and eating them.

NK: What do you love about working on *Supernatural*?

LB: I've talked to a number of people on set when they're looking a little tired, and I've just told them, "Look, you've gotta cherish the show and the repeat and what you're going through right now, because a show like this—in terms of how well everybody gets along, that whole family atmosphere—is only going to come along once in your lifetime, maybe twice if you're lucky." And we've got a lot of pride in what we do. It's a pleasure to come to work on this show every day.

NK: What is your favorite episode?

LB: Well, I found that to be a really creepy, well-written script, and everything worked. Especially those sets—you just wanted to go take a shower after you'd been around those sets. It was just so well done. And the Christmas episode is so bizarre. It's amazing. This whole thing of little innocent kids watching the merry Santa Claus walk by dragging one of their parents in a bag, and it just stops and eats all the cookies... and then leaves. It's very funny.

TIME: 9.30AM

Location: Canadian Motion Picture Studios
Time: 9.30AM

The first thing I noticed when I pulled up in front of the Canadian Motion Picture Park Studios was the lack of free parking spaces, even on the street. I shouldn't have been surprised, however, since Jeffrey Dean Morgan had recently mentioned to me that they were filming his new movie, *Watchmen*, next door to *Supernatural*. Of course, I hadn't realized he'd meant literally adjacent to the studio where he'd recently climbed out of Hell. So even if Jeffrey doesn't make an appearance on the third season of *Supernatural*, it's fun to think that for some scenes he could be just off frame, waiting for Jansen Ackles and Jared Padalecki to wrap for the day so the three of them can hang out.

After circling a couple of times, I settled on a parking spot on the street that's probably closer to the stop

sign than the low ellows. But a parking fine is a small price to pay for spending the day on the set of *Supernatural*, right?

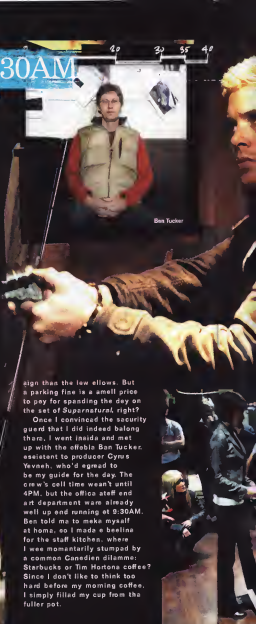
Once I convinced the security guard that I did indeed belong there, I went inside and met up with the effable Ben Tucker, assistant to producer Cyrus Nowrasteh, who'd agreed to be my guide for the day. The crew's call time wasn't until 4PM, but the office staff and art department were already well up and running at 9:30AM. Ben told me to make myself at home, so I made a beeline for the staff kitchen, where I was momentarily stumped by a common Canadian dilemma: Starbucks or Tim Hortons coffee? Since I don't like to think too hard before my morning coffee, I simply filled my cup from the fuller pot.

Ben Tucker

20



Jeffrey Dean Morgan



CYRUS YAVNEH,

PRODUCER

NRG What are you working on today?

CY We're on episode seven of season three. Our normal pattern is eight principal shoot days and one second unit day. Today we have a 4 o'clock call, which is very late on a Wednesday. The reason for that is we were working very late last week, so that meant our turnaround for Monday was already a little bit later than we'd like it. Then we'd built into our budget some overtime, so Monday and Tuesday we worked 13-and-a-half hour days. We don't like working past 12 hours, plus a half-hour lunch. Twelve-and-a-half hours is enough for anybody!

NRG What do you love about working on *Supernatural*?

CY Frame for frame, pound for pound, we have more jammed into our eight days of shooting than any other show on television. And compared to other shows, we don't get the big bucks to do it, so we have to be very clever. What's fun about the show, even though it's a ton of work and you never go to sleep, is that every eight days you make a new movie.

NRG What is your favorite episode?

CY I like the pilot very much, because pilots are always exciting to do. You make something happen that's never happened before, and I think the end result really is superb. There's another one I like called *Skin*, where we have a doppelgänger actually tear its skin off on camera. And our second episode for season three, Phil Spector's episode, is excellent. He did a really good job with possessed children, which is always tricky.





JASON ROBINS,

CHEF/OWNER,
GREEN MACHINE CATERING

NK: What did you serve for lunch and dinner today?

JR: Yellow fin tuna, pulled pork, roast beef, noodle stir fry, butternut squash stuffed ravioli, roast chicken, ratatouille, rice, potatoes, steamed kale, beets, about 10 different salads, soup, fresh homemade bread, and lemon tarragon pie.

NK: How many people did you feed?
JR: 145

NK: What are the crew's favorite foods?

JR: Beer can chicken, prime rib, any pasta, Greek, and Tex-Mex.

NK: What do you love about working on *Supernatural*?

JR: The cast and crew are like family and we all work well together.

NK: What is your favorite episode?

JR: The finale of season one, because of all the bag special effects.



TIME: 10AM

Conference Room

With coffee and blueberry muffin in hand, I commandeered the conference room. While I waited for Ben to send in crew members to chat with me, I looked out the window to see if my car had been towed yet. It was too far away to see, so I distracted myself by pacing the room, and I discovered something quite fascinating. Hanging on the wall was a quilt comprised of dozens of screen captures from various *Supernatural* episodes that some fans had lovingly sewn together along with hand-stitched quotes from the show. I pulled out my camera to snap a shot of it and discovered that my battery was dead. So much for that...

I was about to go ask Ben for some batteries when he popped in with production manager George Grieve in tow. George was followed by Cyrus, and then production designer Jerry Wenek, and among the barrage of questions I sprung on them, one thing was readily evident in all their answers: each of them, and every member of their crews, all love working on *Supernatural*. And not only are they proud of the finished product, they're fans of the show, too.



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- PAINT 8' x 10' PANELS
- SAL. 1/2
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Cyrus Nowinski
and Ben Tucker



TIME: 12.00PM

Location: Conference Room 1

Next thing I knew, office production assistant Lesley DeHean was laying out a smorgasbord of Chinese takeout dishes in front of me. My loud belching must have alerted Ben, since he hurried in and dragged me off to another conference room in the art department. Once there, stunt coordinator Lou Ballo joined me for a chat. Afterward, I followed him back to the room I'd recently departed, where we scavenged the remains of the delicious Chinese food. I took my lunch back to the other conference room, and soon had a surprise visitor: J. Miller Tobin

was in the studio prepping for the next episode, and he wanted to tell me how much he enjoyed working on the show, which is, in many ways, worlds apart from the crime shows that he often directs, such as *Numb3rs* and *The Agency*. Even though he was just starting work on his second *Supernatural* episode, his love of working with the cast and crew mirrored that of everyone else I'd spoken to.

BUILDING # 4

BUILDING # 4

0 25 30 35 40

TIME: 4 PM

Location: The Supernatural Lot

MURAL
NOT ENTIRE BLOODING
3 X 10

Paint?
Let's see
if it
looks
clean

As the day went on, I had many more friendly and informative conversations, but I was anxious to get on set. Ben took me on a tour of the lot. *Supernatural* currently uses four studios for a total of over 64,000 square feet, so we covered a lot of ground.

First we took a walk down memory lane. Although *Supernatural* doesn't commonly use any standing sets, Bobby Singer's house was still there. Yet, when we went inside and looked toward the ceiling, the devil's trap was gone. Apparently the "Meg" demon had damaged it on her way out of Sam.... Across the street, so to speak, was the interior set for Harvelle's Roadhouse, but it'd been given a makeover to look like a new bar for a recent episode. This wasn't the first time I'd been on a set, or even this set for that matter, but it still amazed me how realistic and detailed the sets were, right down to the uneven floorboards in one of the creepy houses.

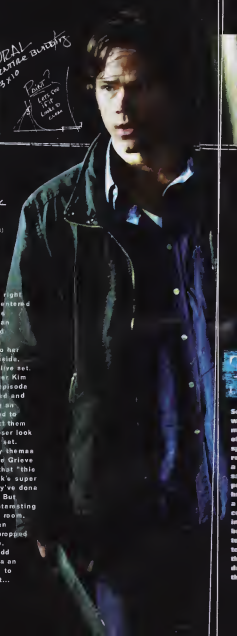
Next we walked through a construction site that resembled a new housing development. Several residential homes were being built and decorated for the Christmas episode, *A Very Supernatural Christmas*. And the Christmas theme carried over next door where I saw some elves — er, women — handmaking Christmas decorations in a room next to a huge storage area. I advanced on the rows of props in the storage room, planning to search for the Colt or maybe the dollhouse from Playthings, but Ben must have seen the kid-in-a-candy-store glint in my eyes

CONST.

- BARS
- PAINT FLAT BLACK
INSIDE MOUNT
- PAINT 8" CROWN
BASE, ETC
- ADD LODGE KEYS
INSIDE

because he whisked me right out of there. Before we entered the next sound stage, we were stopped by a woman with a walkie-talkie, and it wasn't until someone radioed "That's a cut" to her that we were allowed inside. Finally, we were on the live set, where executive producer Kim Manners was shooting episode seven, *Fresh Blood*. Jared and Jensen were rehearsing an emotional scene, so I had to be careful not to distract them while trying to get a closer look at the latest motel room set.

I couldn't discern any themes for the room, but George Grieve had mentioned earlier that "this isn't one of Jerry Wanek's super creations, although they've done a fantastic job with it." But there was something interesting about this nondescript room. The mattresses had been pulled off the beds and propped up against the windows, which seemed a little odd until I figured out it was an attempt by the brothers to keep Gordon Welker out...



NK What are you working on today?

GG *Fresh Blood*. One of the characters, Lucy, has just become a vampire, unbeknownst to herself. She got beat up pretty badly, and the boys are trying to figure out why she killed two guys. There's a real high level of emotion to it. For instance, one roll was about three-and-a-half minutes – it was really, really long. Very intense. It's always amazing to me that they can keep it up; you'd think at some point in time they'd run out of gas, and say, "I'm sorry, I'm not doing that one anymore."

NK What do you love about working on *Supernatural*?

GG Very quickly in season one, it became a really close-knit group. It's a totally fun environment because it's busy. Apart from myself bragging about my own crew, I get lots of comments from other film workers that speak very highly of *Supernatural*. A lot of people would like to come here if they could. In the film industry, it's not uncommon to work 14-15-16 hours a day, and that can start getting to you. Here, even though we do get tired, all the people from the top right down to craft services enjoy being here. That's a very positive thing. I've been on some shows where it's like, "What am I doing here?"

NK What is your favorite episode?

GG I'd have to say one of the very first episodes we did (*Wendigo*). It's one of those episodes where there were so many elements in it that were not just scary but were way out there... and it's like, "Wow, this supernatural stuff's going to be pretty good." The character itself was something else – this actor was like 6'10" or something like that, skinner than a broom handle. When you saw him in the Wendigo costume it was like, "Wow." So I guess that would have to be my all-time favorite, because it introduced you to what *Supernatural* was gonna be.



Time: 6PM

Some more crew members were willing to open up to my microphones, but instead of heading back to the office space, we went into a hospital room set. This was such a realistic set that I got that came quassy feeling most people got when stepping into hospitals. It even smelled like a real hospital room, though that could've just been my overactive imagination. And when my throat became parched from asking too many questions, I had to stop myself from drinking the apple juice that the set decorator had placed next to the hospital bed.

As the day turned to night, I found myself yawning (despite the fun I was having) and was tempted to retire to the limo RV that was parked nearby on the sound stage. But Bee suggested that I head for home instead, which I think was a hint that he himself wanted to go home and didn't trust me to behave myself if left unsupervised on the set. I didn't want to overstay my welcome, so I didn't argue. I hope they'll have me back soon!

INTERVIEW
JEFFREY
DEAN MORGAN



Words: Bryan Cairns

IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER

Although he didn't always follow the happy families rulebook, John Winchester nonetheless had his sons' best interests at heart. Indeed, he gave his life to save Dean. In an exclusive interview with *The Official Supernatural Magazine*, actor JEFFREY DEAN MORGAN reveals why, even in death, John's legacy lives on.

As the rough and more-than-a-little gruff John Winchester, actor Jeffrey Dean Morgan was anything but a typical father to sons' Sam and

Dean. In fact, when Sam told his dad he was scared of the 'thing' in his closet, John gave him a 45. Then again, John had every reason to be fearful after his beloved wife Mary was slaughtered at the hands of the Yellow-Eyed Demon (Pilot). Rather than lose another member of his family to this supernatural fiend, John sacrificed his own life to save Dean's (*In My Time Of Dying*), before rising from Hell itself to rescue the boys once more (*All Hell Breaks Loose, Pt. 2*).

Currently filming *Watchmen* in Vancouver, Morgan (who has more than 35 TV shows and movies to his name) took time out of his busy schedule to sit down and chat with *The Official Supernatural Magazine* about John Winchester's epic arc. And boy, was it epic...

The Official Supernatural Magazine: How did you get the part of John Winchester?
Jeffrey Dean Morgan: When I did the pilot,

"AT THE CORE OF IT, JOHN WAS A GOOD FATHER. HE LOVED HIS KIDS MORE THAN HE LOVED HIMSELF!"

I didn't know I was going to come back. Sam and Dean were just children in the scenes I shot, and I figured they would have a guy that was an older version of myself [for the actual series]. How can I have kids who are Jensen Ackles' age for God's sakes, or Jared Padalecki's size? So I really didn't expect anymore than that.

When I did come back, I was really happy for a gig. Besides that, I just love those two kids. I call Jensen and Jared "kids" now because I'm their dad. They are two of the coolest, most well-adjusted, greatest guys you will ever meet in your life. It was a great pilot, and David Nutter, who directed it, was brilliant.

Knowing Jared and Jensen's sense of humor, did they tease you about portraying their father when you're barely 10 years older than them? Of course! Wouldn't you? We all laughed about it, but I got a lot of crap from

them all the time. I still do. I got a text message from them saying "Hi Daddy!" or "How is our dear daddy doing?" Oddly enough, *Watchmen* is shooting on the same block as *Supernatural*, so I will see them every day for the next eight months. We had a lot of fun together, and there was a lot of laughing, to the point where the crew probably got a little upset with us at times. I would get the giggles, and I was so tired anyway. Jared has a tendency to get the giggles, and when you are tired and they start giggling and you start giggling, it can go on way too long. We certainly had a good time.

Sam and Dean had a very unusual upbringing. What kind of father was John Winchester?

At the core of it, John was a good father. He loved his kids more than he loved himself. Everything he did that was questionable, everything that most people





When I finally got into the character of John Winchester, I loved it. I never had any issue with the special effects. I don't think I would want to be against a blue screen every day, but I liked doing it. I had done a series called *The Burning Zone* in the 1990s that had a lot of special effects, but they've certainly come a long way since then. It was fun. The coolest thing is seeing the episode afterward and how it's turned out. What they pull off in the CG lab is amazing!

Back in the day, John was supposed to be this badass hunter. Was it fun getting to show that side of him in the confrontation with Meg? Yeah. I was dying to get John on his own! We had to deal with the family stuff, and there was so much apologizing, or not apologizing, that when it finally got down to kicking the crap out of some demons, it was really time! As an actor, the reason I first got into this was getting to play cowboys and Indians. John was the ultimate cowboy, so I was in heaven. Throw me against some walls, let me jump over some couches, and shoot some bad guys. I was having a blast!

John was no slouch in hand-to-hand combat. Did you get to do any of your own stunts? I did a lot of them. . . I want to say I did them all because that is way cooler. I had a tendency to get hurt because I am a little older. I was lumping around quite a bit, which was fodder for the kids. They can make fun of that all day long. "Look at Dad! He can't even walk today!" [Laughs]. There was nothing really major, just age catching up. Bouncing off the pavement is a little harder these days!

How was it doing those scenes where John is possessed by the demon and lashes out at his sons? Those turned out so well. They kind of let me go with it. "We just want you to

be different from John", so I came up with this whole pattern of speech. What I was aiming for was a kind of Jack Nicholson in *The Shining* thing where he gets all freaky. I just changed my voice. The other thing that was important was I couldn't see anything I had yellow contacts in, so we had sand bags placed all over the room. That is how I knew where I was. I would hit them with my foot and I knew I was right in front of Jensen. Then I would turn around and I would walk until I felt the sand bag with my foot again and I knew I was in front of Jared. I would wait for them to talk so I knew where I was looking. So I did that scene pretty damn near blind! I could see light sources, but I couldn't see the actors. They shot that all as one, too. My coverage was a continuous shot, so it was really a feat for the cameraman, the director, and the three of us.

In the season two premiere, *In My Time Of Dying*, John makes a deal with the Yellow-Eyed Demon to save his dying son. What was your reaction to the script?

Well, that will prove to all the naysayers that John was a good father.

It showed how much John loved his kids. I was very sad to see him go, I would rather have had him ride into the sunset so I could come back whenever I was available. I was sad that he died, but it is Eric Kripke's decision. He has a grand scheme, and I read things that say there is

always a possibility I could come back. We'll see. If the kids are in trouble, I hope John will somehow make himself known again.

Perhaps he can be their own private guardian angel, like Michael Landon in *Highway To Heaven*?

[Laughs] Damn straight! Only this would be a whole different take. That would be sweet.

would look at and go, "That wasn't a very good decision on his part," he did for his sons. Perhaps there was a better way to do it, but every parent can't be a Denny Duquette [Jeffrey's character from *Grey's Anatomy*]. He had his flaws, and I loved that. That was the best part. Unfortunately, the kids are screwed up now, but I think it was always done out of love.

The season one episode *Shadow* featured quite a few special effects. Was it a learning curve dealing with imaginary menaces?

Kim Manners directed that episode, and he was so great that I was fine with it.



INTERVIEW
JEFFREY
DEAN MORGAN

PROFILE JOHN WINCHESTER

Although concrete facts about his early years are few and far between, John Winchester was most likely born in 1954 in the state of Indiana. He left high school (probably without graduating) to pursue a career in the Marine Corps, where he quickly rose up the ranks to corporal. It was here that he met Descon, the warden from *Felose Prison Blood* who went on to save his life (most likely during the Vietnam War). Brave and disciplined, John was awarded various medals for his years of devotion to his country, including a Bronze Star for bravery, heroism or meritorious service, the Purple Heart, and the Vietnam Service Medal. Sometime later he married Mary, and the couple had two children, Dean (born in 1970), and Sam (born in 1983). When Sam was just six months old, the Yellow-Eyed Demon killed Mary, John, who was working as a mechanic at the time, awoke to find his wife pinned to the ceiling in Sam's nursery with her abdomen split open and her body engulfed in flames. Determined to avenge Mary's death, John gave up his half of the garage which he owned with Mike Guntber in Lawrence, Kansas, to become a hunter of the supernatural, and raised his two young sons to do the same. In 2005, John and his now fully-grown sons were involved in a horrific car accident which left Dean in a coma fighting for his life. Rather than lose his firstborn, John made a deal with the Yellow-Eyed Demon in which he sacrificed his life in order to save Dean's. He was 52.

The last time we saw John Winchester, he was escaping the depths of Hell to help his sons finally put an end to the Yellow-Eyed Demon's reign of terror. Will he be back? Don't bet against it....

How satisfying was it returning in the season two finale to finally wreak some vengeance on the demon responsible for the death of Mary Winchester?

It was great. I came back around Christmas, which was five months before they were done filming season two [Jeffrey was shooting *The Accidental Husband* in New York with Uma Thurman for most of the second half of the season and was therefore unavailable]. We filmed everything against a blue screen, because nothing was truly written yet. I think Eric actually rewrote everything because I couldn't come back whenever the finish date for the show was for the last episode. We kind of winged it, but I love that John came back. Maybe he's gone on to a better place now, but who knows with John? I will never be told he's in Heaven resting peacefully.

Remarkably, John never utters a single word in that final confrontation...

I never had any dialogue. When I first got the script, the scene was more complex with a lot of fighting. But *The Accidental Husband* team wouldn't let me do that stuff. They were basically like, "No, you can't go up there to fight and potentially get hurt." Eric rewrote it so basically I grab the demon and he throws me off. And there was never a whole lot of dialogue. In the original, there was some, and in the second there was none. I liked it, because it allowed the chance of us to connect. Those two kids are really good actors, and we had done this before. In *Shadow*, where we first see each other, it is that whole "I am happy to see you" without a lot of talking. That was the same strategy



they did in this last episode, and it was very effective.

Are there any *Supernatural* episodes that really stand out for you?

I loved *Dead Man's Blood*, where the boys cut me off and I get pissed off at them. The last three episodes of season one were so much fun and serialized. I also really love *Shadow*. The last episode, where it's me and Jensen with Dean in the hospital bed, was good too. That was a bittersweet deal because I didn't know if I would be back on the show.

The *Supernatural* comic book series *Origins* focuses on the adventures of John Winchester. Have you had a chance to check them out?

I went to get the graphic novel of *Watchmen* [Jeffrey is currently filming the movie adaptation] and bought the first few issues of the *Supernatural* comic book. I haven't opened them. They are still in their plastic sleeves. I was like, "Maybe I should keep them in there and they will be worth something one day." I should just read them, but to be honest, I don't have a whole lot of reading time right now.

That's true. At one point, you were even jetting back and forth between *Supernatural* and *Gry's Anatomy*. Was it strange appearing in two series that shared the same time slot? [Laughs] That was a little bizarre. I was like, "What the hell is going on?" I don't know if it was a good thing or a bad thing, programming myself against myself. That only happened in the second year, though, because we had been on different nights before that. Now that they are on against each other, thank God for *Yvonne*. I wish they would put *Supernatural* on another day because it is a tough night. *Supernatural* is a great show, and more people should be watching it. And hopefully John will be back!

Rest assured, there would be an awful lot of happy *Supernatural* fans if John were to return... I'm [currently] up in Vancouver shooting *Watchmen* every day, so I'll be like, "Hey, I have next week off, guys! Maybe John should make an appearance?" ☺

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REGULAR
MYTHS &
LEGENDS

MYTHS &



WISCONSIN

W E E K L Y



Shutterstock/Hunter-Hansen

BY SARAH MATTHEWSON

A SIEGE AT THE CITY BANK OF Milwaukee ended in bloodshed and confusion yesterday, with at least two people dead and several more seriously injured.

Local authorities were called to the bank in downtown Milwaukee shortly before midday after local man Ronald Remick, who was seen holding a shotgun, sealed himself and several hostages inside the building.

The siege was seemingly brought to an end just before 4AM when Remick was shot and killed by a police marksman. However, in a bizarre twist, two of the hostages, later identified as fugitive brothers Dean and Sam Winchester, took over the siege, refusing to

BANK SIEGE LEAVES FBI WITH RED FACES

allow anyone in or out of the building. The siege finally ended at 7AM when government agents stormed the bank, forcing the brothers to flee. This is the second time Dean Winchester, who is wanted for murder, theft, fraud, and grave desecration, and was thought dead by officials, has evaded police capture.

Asked how was she was feeling, hostage Sherry Windermere, who was obviously still suffering from shock, declared: "It doesn't matter what the police might say, these brothers are heroes. There was a monster in there. I tell you A monster!"

In a further twist, police reported finding extensive shedded material, similar to snake skin, at the scene of the crime. No large reptiles have been reported missing in the area.

99¢

WEEK END EDITION OCTOBER 27-28 2007

The MISSOURI CHRONICLE

MURDER SUSPECT'S DEATH BRINGS BAFFLING CASE TO A CLOSE

BY NEIL EDWARDS

One of the most baffling murder cases in Missouri's history was resolved yesterday when 26-year-old Dean Winchester was shot and killed.

Winchester, of Lawrence, Kansas, was wanted by local authorities for the brutal slaying of a St. Louis woman, as well as the attempted murder of family friend Rebecca Warren. Winchester was found dead at Warren's home in the early hours of the morning. Only days earlier he had attempted to beat Rebecca to death at her very residence. The young woman only escaped after a SWAT team stormed the house, following an anonymous tip.

Not so lucky was Emily Ronger. Ronger was found dead at her boyfriend Zach Warren's house after being viciously attacked. Zach Warren, who is the brother of Rebecca Warren, was initially arrested for the murder after being caught on police camera entering his house only minutes before Emily was killed. Warren has always protested his innocence, claiming that he was at his parents' house with his sister at the time, and that he couldn't possibly have been in two places at once. He has now been released without charge.

Murderer: Dean Winchester

THE MURDERER

...killed President Abraham Lincoln.

FULL STORY - R

This issue: SHAPESHIFTERS

LEGENDS

CHAPTER VI

SHAPESHIFTERS

The shapeshifter is common in folklore throughout the world, and comes in many forms. These include werewolves, were-crocodiles, selkies, and fox spirits.

In its simplest sense, shapeshifting means to change physical form. Other terms used to describe the process include metamorphosis and transmutation, although these tend to apply to permanent changes in appearance, while shapeshifting usually refers to a temporary change in form.

One of the most commonly referenced shapeshifters is the skinwalker. Unlike lycanthropy, where those cursed transform from humans into werewolves whenever there is a full moon, and bearwalkers, who change from humans into bears (and sometimes owls), skinwalkers don't change into animals. Instead, these creatures kill humans and assume their shapes. They can be destroyed by conventional hunting means, namely a silver bullet to the heart.

Another interesting shapeshifter is the nahual (see *Frank* illustration). According to Mexican mythology, nahuals were necromancers who served the Aztec god of war, Tezcatlipoca. Legend has it that a nahual, which is the Aztec term for animal spirit, can transform into virtually any animal it wishes, including eagles, jaguars, snakes, and coyotes. Again, they can be killed via a silver bullet to the heart.



Character: Dean Winchester

DRY - PAGE 5

Words: Kate Lloyd



FBI



Photographs taken 2005

WANTED FOR: MURDER, GRAVE
DESECRATION, THEFT, FRAUD

DEAN WINCHESTER

Aliases: Ted Nugent, Jerry Wasek,
James Hetfield, Nigel Tufnell, John Bonham

DESCRIPTION

Date of Birth: January 24, 1979

Hair: Brown

Place of Birth: Lawrence, Kansas

Eyes: Green

Height: 5' 1"

Weight: 175 lbs

Build: Medium

Complexion: Fair

Sex: Male

Nationality: American

Occupation: Unknown

Remarks: Is rarely seen without his
brother, Sam Winchester. Drives a 1967
Chevy Impala.



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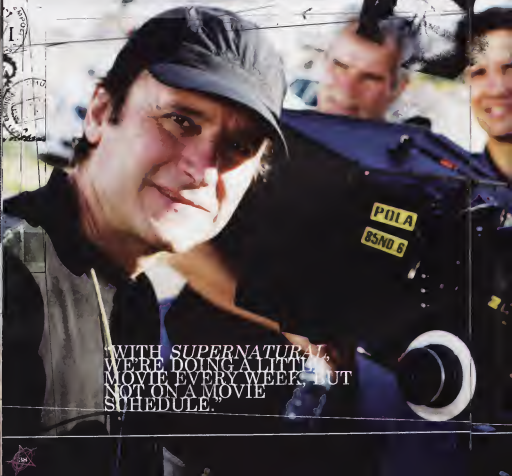
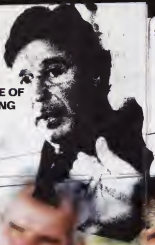
INTERVIEW
DIRECTOR

K. D. EVILL

Program index pagina...

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& recentit.

WRITING. DIRECTING. ACTING. YOU NAME IT, **ROBERT SINGER** HAS TRIED HIS HAND AT IT OVER THE COURSE OF A 30-YEAR CAREER, VIRTUALLY ALWAYS WITH GLOWING RESULTS. **SUPERNATURAL'S** CO-SHOWRUNNER, AND OCCASIONAL DIRECTOR, TALKS US THROUGH HIS IMPRESSIVE RESUME, AND REVEALS HOW HE ENDED UP EXECUTIVE PRODUCING THE BEST SHOW ON TV.



"WITH **SUPERNATURAL**, WE'RE DOING A LITTLE MOVIE EVERY WEEK, BUT NOT ON A MOVIE SCHEDULE."



SEASON
M.
DIRECTOR'S CUT:

ROBERT SINGER

Words: Nicholas Knight



Left: *Supernatural*'s DP Serge LeDucour Above: Robert Singer

SUPERNATURAL



Long before he became a director, one of Robert Singer's first forays into television was as a producer on *The Night Strangler* (1973), which featured Carl Kolchak, a reporter who investigates strange supernatural occurrences. Considering that creator Eric Kripke initially pitched *Supernatural* as a reporter investigating the supernatural elements behind urban legends, Singer has essentially come full circle in his career by working on this show. Just as interestingly, while he's directed seven episodes (and counting), Singer originally came to *Supernatural* as executive producer and co-showrunner.

"I actually wasn't supposed to direct," Singer admits. "One of the reasons the studio wanted me to do *Supernatural* was to be the guiding hand and voice of experience. They wanted me to be around more and not go off into directing, and that was fine with me. Although, working with Eric, I knew within the first week he could handle that."

Before he could say, "That's a wrap!" however, Singer's directing skills were being called upon.

"I was in Chicago and got this phone call at about 8 o'clock at night saying that the director of the very next episode had dropped out and 'We need you to go to Canada to direct the thing,'" recalls the industry veteran. "So I flew home to L.A., just to pick a bag, then I flew up to Canada."

Fortunately, Singer was handed a fun script, "Phantom Traveler—I loved that show!" he laughs. "It was very challenging, because it takes place inside an airplane. We shot on a real plane because the budget doesn't afford us to have big mock-ups. It's a great crew we have, and the episode turned out really well. Everybody liked what I did, so then from, 'You better stay down there [in Burbank]!' it became, 'So how many more are you gonna direct? Very fun.'"

Like most of Hollywood's directors, Singer worked as a second unit director for several years before making the ultimate move behind the camera.

"I had directed a lot of second units for shows that I was working on, and I was



producing a show called *Midnight Caller*, and one of the scripts I wrote, I just kinda said, 'Alright, I'm doing this one.' And that's how the directing started," he recalls. "I've been at it for 20 years or so now."

Singer credits his production experience, including working on sets with directors and in editing rooms, for making his move to the director's chair easier.

"I was pretty comfortable from the time I walked on the set and had an idea of what I wanted. I think for people who are writers, who haven't produced or been on sets a lot, I think it'd be a little more daunting. In television, to this day, the hardest thing is to allocate your time. Those first few shots in the morning it seems like, 'Well, we have hours to get all this done.' You have to learn to hit the ground running because you know you have a big scene coming up in the afternoon. You are a slave to the schedule, and that's the hardest thing for young directors to learn, so they don't get in trouble. The time just flies. You've gotta be aware that not every scene in television is gonna have your best looking shot. Sometimes you pack and choose where you want to step out and be bold, what's going to take more time. Pick those ones early because you can't do that with every scene. That's the advice I give to young directors."

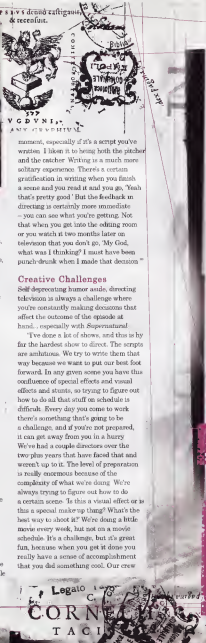
Another piece of advice—or rather, warning—which Singer makes sure to impart to young directors is, "Directing is exhausting." But getting to see the vision you have in your head come to life makes it well worth it. "It's very communal; there are a lot of people on the set, a lot of people around all pulling for the same thing. You're the general there. It's really in the

moment, especially if it's a script you've written. I liken it to being both the pitcher and the catcher. Writing is a much more solitary experience. There's a certain gratification in writing when you finish a scene and you read it and you go, 'Yeah that's pretty good.' But the feedback in directing is certainly more immediate—you can see what you're getting. Not that when you get into the editing room or you watch it two months later on television that you don't go, 'My God, what was I thinking?' I must have been punch-drunk when I made that decision."

Creative Challenges

Self-deprecating humor aside, directing television is always a challenge where you're constantly making decisions that affect the outcome of the episode at hand... especially with *Supernatural*.

"I've done a lot of shows, and this is by far the hardest show to direct. The scripts are ambitious. We try to write them that way because we want to put our best foot forward. In any given scene you have this confluence of special effects and visual effects and stunts, so trying to figure out how to do all that stuff on schedule is difficult. Every day you come to work there's something that's going to be a challenge, and if you're not prepared, it can get away from you in a hurry. We've had a couple directors over the two-plus years that have faced that and weren't up to it. The level of preparation is really enormous because of the complexity of what we're doing. We're always trying to figure out how to do a certain scene. Is this a visual effect or is this a special make-up thing? What's the best way to shoot it? We're doing a little movie every week, but not on a movie schedule. It's a challenge, but it's great fun, because when you get it done you really have a sense of accomplishment that you did something cool. Our crew



is really willing to try anything. Any hardheaded scheme a director can come up with, they'll take a shot to try to make it work, but it is a high-wire act."

Despite the fact that he cites *Supernatural* as the hardest show he's had to direct, Singer always has a great time on set. "It's a loose set, and Jared Padalecki and Jensen Ackles are practical jokers. Every day there's laughter on the set."

Because he's enjoyed all his experiences on the set, Singer finds it difficult to choose a favorite among the episodes he's directed. After some thought, he says, "Croston. I thought it was a very interesting script, because it was less about the boo scares and the jump scares and the monsters. It was psychological, and very character driven. It had an underlying message to it—being afraid of what you can't understand. The character-driven ones are my favorite episodes, and Eric likes ones where the guy gets his hand caught in the garbage disposal, so together we come up with one good show."

Where Eric Kripke is an urban legend and folklore buff, Singer likens himself to "the everyday audience. I am not steeped in [legendary—I'm kind of like the hockey goalie. People come up with legends and they shoot



them at me, and they either get it in the net or I kick it aside."

"The one I keep saying I want to do, and no one seems to get excited about it, or ever does it, is the ghost of John Brown," Singer continues. "I think we live in a world now in which a different kind of racism is really pervasive, so I'd like to do a show about racism and find a way to attack that metaphorically to get to what's going on today."

The writers and producers might not be jumping at Singer's historical ghost story, but everyone listens to his experienced opinion when it comes to selecting cast members. "I brought a few in," Singer says of actors he knows and trusts, such as Gary Cole in *Hollywood Babylon*, who he'd worked with on *Midnight Caller*. He also did a pilot for Sam's Circus with Richard Speight, who played the Trickster on *Tall Tales*, and he's worked with Jim Beaver (Bobby) a number of times.

"It makes casting so much easier if you can reach out to people you know and who you know can do the job. You don't have to sit through reading 20 people. I'd like to have Mark Harman come in, but he's not available. Marlee Matlin is not available. There have been a few people we've asked that wanted to do it, but for one reason or another weren't available, but we'll go around to them. I did a movie of the week with Fred Lehane years and years ago. Even as a young actor, he was really committed. I thought what he did with the Yellow-Eyed Demon was so controlled, so chilling. Fred was great, but we always kill the ones we love."

Starring Guests

There's no doubt about it, Singer loves directing talented actors. "I did the first episode when our new character—Ben—was introduced, and Lauren Cohan was

a delight," he remembers. "We're really happy with her. I also really enjoyed Sterling Brown, who played Gordon. We brought him back a number of times. He was introduced in *Bloodlust*, along with Amber Benson. She came off *Buffy*. Boy, was she game! She had some tough stuff to do, and she was really good."

Looking ahead, Singer can't wait to sink his teeth into more meaty scripts. In season three, Dean's deal with the Crossroads Demon is arguably the most important plot element. "We refer to it a lot," Singer confirms. "It's something that really informs the whole season and every episode. You can't ignore it, even in the stand-alone episodes. Dean plays around with it in some early episodes to get Sam to lighten up and do things for him. He really malks it. It's always there, and it always has to be there. When we move the mythology ball along, it's so much about that, and how Sam changes during the course of the year with his goal now being to save Dean."

"The other major mythology element revolves around the thousand (or however many) demons that escaped from Hell when the gate was opened... and where's it all leading to," continues Singer. "They'll always be out there. The war's begun, and the war's a contest. In another sense it's really about, 'What are the demons' plans for Sam? What's that all about?' With the death of Yellow-Eyes, a lot of the demons that got out are looking to Sam to pick up the mantle. There are warring factions between demons. In one of the scripts we say it's chase out there because there's a power vial at the top, and now you've got a bunch of demons scrambling for power. That makes it a more dangerous place than if there was some sort of order attached to it. We learn more throughout this year about the whole demon mythology—where they came from and what they want. They are much like humans in that they're not all of one mind."

FINALE FLING

Robert Singer on what we can expect from the second half of season three...

"It's all coming so fast! It's all about Sam. It's going to get to be so much about the brothers at the end and the situation they find themselves in, and the moral line is really going to be explored. Is there any wrong when your ultimate goal is the ultimate right? That's where we're headed, and that puts the boys on a real collision course."



LISTEN: Dean's demon companion

Learn more: page 11

INTERVIEW
STERLING
K. BROWN

Killer Instinct

Interview: Bryan Cairns

Until his brutal death in season three's *Fresh Blood*, **Gordon Walker** was a constant thorn in the side of the Winchester brothers. In an exclusive interview with *The Official Supernatural Magazine*, actor **STERLING K. BROWN** chats about the demons that drove this most vicious of hunters...

Three words aptly describe Gordon Walker. Mad. Bad. Dangerous. Ever since his sister was turned into a vampire when he was just 17, Walker has been hell-bent on destroying every supernatural being unlucky enough to cross his path – even the ones that aren't evil. As Ellen Harvelle warns Sam in the season two episode, *Bloodlust*: Gordon is a danger "to everyone and everything around him," especially those of the bloodthirsty persuasion. How ironic then that this seasoned hunter should become the very thing he hates most in season three's *Fresh Blood*. Then again, you'd expect nothing less from *Supernatural*...

The Official Supernatural Magazine caught up with Gordon Walker's considerably less scary alter ego,

Sterling K. Brown, to get his thoughts on this most dramatic of twists...

The Official Supernatural Magazine:
How did you become involved with *Supernatural*?

Sterling K. Brown: I had a producer session with several people. I don't think they knew which way they wanted to go with the character, because all







ethnicities were present for the casting. The audition script was Gordon recounting the story of how he first became a hunter, and his sister's death. It was just Robert Singer and Eric Kripke in the audition. They seemed as if they were relatively pleased, but there's no telling what's going to happen until you sign the contract. I do remember thinking that of all the auditions I'd had recently, this was one of the best written. I was excited about the material.

Describe Gordon Walker...

He's an intense individual who passionately believes he knows what is best for the world and humanity. I would never describe him as a bad person. He has a certain myopia that doesn't allow him to see anything other than the perspective he's created.

Gordon's storyline largely involved vampires. Are you a fan of that genre?
Anybody around my age who grew up

watching *The Lost Boys* has to be psyched about being involved with something of this nature. I geeked out about the whole thing. Before my first episode, *Bloodlust*, I watched a lot of supernatural movies, like *Dracula*. I came to the conclusion that the idea of there being a good vampire didn't jive with me, or Gordon, which is good. I thought it was complete and total bull. So when I said there is no such thing as a good vampire, I really meant it! The flip side of that is when I shot my final episode, the idea of having to become a vampire myself [see *Fresh Blood* question]. I hated it, hated it, hated it! I have so much bile for vampires!

In *Bloodlust*, Gordon initially seems to find a kindred spirit in Dean. Why did they connect so well?

They both relish kicking ass. They are both haunted, too. As a big brother, Dean has a certain level of responsibility that he takes on for Sam. Gordon doesn't have a sibling, but because of the death of his sister, he has a responsibility to make sure he is able to do as much good as possible and even the score.

"I WOULD NEVER DESCRIBE GORDON AS A BAD PERSON. HE HAS A CERTAIN MYOPIA THAT DOESN'T ALLOW HIM TO SEE ANYTHING OTHER THAN THE PERSPECTIVE HE'S CREATED."

STERLING PERFORMANCE(S)

Can't get enough of Mr. Brown? Then check out the following...

Army Wives (Oland Burton)
Sterling plays the psychiatrist husband of Lieutenant Colonel Jean Burton in this powerful drama series.

Starved (Adam Williams)
Comedy starring Sterling as a bulimic New York cop.

Third Watch (Officer Dade)
Drama series set in and around a fictional New York City precinct. Sterling guest-starred for four episodes as Officer Edward Dade.

We've been introduced to a lot of hunters, so how are Gordon's methods different to that of the Winchesters? That's a good question. I feel that Sam is the tempering partner that keeps Dean from moving forward in a similar fashion to Gordon. The brothers have two brains working together, which is always going to give you a system of checks and balances that wouldn't exist otherwise. Gordon only has an impulse and goes with that.

Dean called Gordon a "sadistic bastard." Do you feel he crossed the line when he tortured the vampire queen Lenore?

Absolutely not! I don't think there is any such thing as a good vampire! The idea of a whole nest of vampires going around feeding only on cow's blood sounds like complete crap to me.

Even though Gordon clashes with the Winchesters, does he have some strange code of honor?

Absolutely! When Gordon turns his aim toward Sam, it is not because he developed some sort of animosity from the way the brothers left him the last time they saw Gordon. He has information that leads him to believe Sam will become an instrument of evil

in Satan's army, period! His whole motivation is to eradicate evil from the world. He does his best to explain that to Dean, and I know it was hard for Dean to hear because Sam is his brother.

What was your opinion of the way Dean and Sam framed Gordon and had him arrested?

My whole philosophy was any time you don't die, there is always an opportunity to come back. I was happy to be arrested and not shot in the head! It was playful and witty. You have to give Sam credit: he's a Stanford man, even though he didn't finish his education.

In season three's *Fresh Blood*, Gordon is transformed into a vampire. How did that sit with you?

That was really hard. I called Eric Kripke when I first got the script and realized I was going to be expiring. I wasn't so bummed about expiring, because all good things must come to an end. The thing that was horrific for me is that Gordon turns an innocent girl into a vampire. That was hard because his sister was turned and he had to take her out. That began his career as a hunter. So I know Gordon does a lot of jack things and isn't the most righteous individual, but did he have to do this? Eric was like, "We talked about it for a long time, but now that he's a monster and operates off instinct, he is not so logical." When the bloodlust comes on and you have the desire to feed, it is huge, and your strategy does not take into consideration collateral damage. His endgame is to kill Sam, and anyone else who has to experience detrimental effects because of that is not a concern of his. That was tough for me to process and get on board with.

It is ironic that Gordon becomes what he hates most?

Yeah, it is very ironic, and he gets the chance to talk about that a little bit,

having the understanding of what it means to carry around something evil inside of you. He even says, "I am going to take myself out once I take you out because it is the right thing to do."


Were you satisfied with the way it ended for Gordon?

He definitely didn't go out with a whimper; it was with a bang for sure. If he had to go out, I am glad it will leave a lasting impression on the series.

Did you enjoy working with Jared and Jensen?

Two guys did everything in their power to make me feel comfortable and like I belonged on the set. I will always be thankful to them for that. I feel the atmosphere of any set is established by the leads, and Jared and Jensen create a wonderfully productive environment that is also extremely playful at the same time. I learned a lot of what it means to be gracious by the example they put forth.

Finally, what are your Gordon Walker highlights?

I loved that first fight with Dean, and then Gordon's confrontation with the boys leading up to when he tortures the vampire queen with the dead man's blood. I felt like that was the first time Sam and Dean see what kind of man Gordon is, and how he likes to do things. Then in *Hunted*, the way Dean and I got to interact with each other was very cool. 



TURN OVER THE PAGE FOR
A FRAME-BY-FRAME ANALYSIS
OF GORDON'S FIRST
EPISODE, BLOODLUST.

MASTERS OF DISGUISE WHO ARE THE WINCHESTERS THIS WEEK?
 DRESSING UP AS VAMPIRES TO SCARE THE BOYS SO THEY CAN SNEAK A LOOK AT THE
 SEVERED VAMPIRE HEAD. THE LOCAL SHERIFF ALSO GETS A VISIT FROM TWO REPORTERS INVESTIGATING ON BEHALF
 OF THE WORLDWEEKLY NEWS. OR IS THAT THE WEEKLY WORLD NEWS? SORRY, THEY'RE NEW.

JOHN'S JOURNAL

Words: Jayne Nelson

BLOODLUST

Episode: 2.3 WRITTEN BY: SERA GAMBLE
 DIRECTED BY: ROBERT SINGER

GUEST STARRING: GIMMIE FERRIS (ELLEN STERLING), K. BROWN (GORDON WALKER), AMBER BENSON (LENORE), TY OLSEN (LI)



A young woman is being chased through a nighttime forest. From the look on her face, she fears for her life—and with good reason. When her unseen attacker catches up with her, she loses her head—literally!

Meanwhile, Dean and Sam are on their way to Red Lodge, Montana, in the now-rebuilt Impala, which is once again a thing of beauty. ("Listen to her purr," grins Dean). Posing as reporters, they chat with the town's impressively mustachioed sheriff about a recent rash of cattle mutilations and decapitations.

The sheriff doesn't think anything satanic is going on, but the boys need to know for sure, so they sneak into the morgue to take a look at the last victim's severed head. To their surprise, they find she has retractable teeth—she's a vampire!

With vampires in town, Dean and Sam need to find them. They go to a local bar and ask the bartender if he's seen any

and he's the *hyster* responsible for the vampire killings. He seems friendly enough, but refuses to team up with Sam and Dean, preferring to stalk his quarry alone.

Later that night, Gordon attacks a vampire at a mill, but things don't go to plan when the creature gets the drop on him. Dean and Sam save his ass, and Dean kills the vampire by slicing off his head with a chainsaw. It's an action so brutal!



OW, THAT SMART!
 Winchester women and wags. Winchester women and wags. And tied up by the Poor Sam gets knocked out, kidnapped, and tied up by the vampire (Lenore) being punched in the jaw by his own brother and then held in a warehouse by Gordon, who slices open his wrist for good measure. Not a good day for Sam. Dean

It makes Sam uncomfortable, but Gordon looks impressed.

They go for a drink to celebrate the killing, but Sam isn't in the mood. He heads back to their motel and calls Ellen, who informs him that Gordon is a good hunter but a dangerous man to be around. Meanwhile, back in the bar, Dean is getting along with Gordon just fine: "You and me," Gordon tells him, "we were born to do this. It's in our blood."

However, things are about to take a strange turn. Sam is jumped by some vampires and knocked out, then carted off to see their leader, a young woman named Lenore. She tells him that not all vampires are evil; in fact, some will do whatever they can to avoid harming

GOADING THE ENEMY
 NOW TO WIND UP YOUR TOE, WINCHESTER STYLE...
 DEAN TO BRUSSELS: GORDON, "NOW YOU DOIN'... GORDY? GOTTA TINKLE YET?"

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 群馬県内各支店

TOOTH AND CLAW

THINGS THAT GO BITE IN THE NIGHT...

HOT 100

MUSIC TO OUR EARS
 TRACKING THE TRACKS

Whisper in the Sky

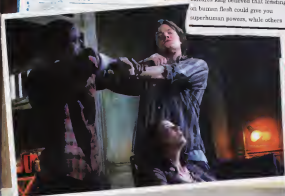
— Journey

Back in Black

— AC/DC

Irishman Bram Stoker didn't invent the vampire when he scribbled his famed 1897 novel, *Dracula*, but he certainly helped introduce them to the West. Many cultures long believed that festering or bitten flesh could give you superhuman powers, while others

— such as the Ancient Greeks — had their own monsters named Lemnia, who drank blood and were generally rather nasty. The origin of the vampire we know today, though, came from Eastern Europe — something Stoker knew when he used Transylvania as a setting for his scummy toothy tale.



DAINEXX

humans, including drinking cow's blood (hence all the cattle mutations in the area). She proves her good intentions by releasing Sam unharmed, asking him to allow her and her fellow vampires to leave town in peace.

Sam is dropped back at the motel, where he interrupts Dean and Gordon as they make plans to find the vampire hideout. Asking to speak to his brother alone, Sam explains what just happened. Dean is adamant that all vampires are evil and refuses to give Sam's story the benefit of the doubt, which prompts Sam to accuse him of using Gordon as a father figure to replace their dad. Stung, Dean clocks him one on the jaw. Sam won't give up, though, insisting that the vampire should be given a second chance.

It seems Sam could be onto something, because when they walk back into their motel room, Gordon is gone — and with the keys to the Impala, so the boys can't follow. Dean hotwheels the car and they set off after him, using Sam's recollections

(Despite being blindfolded) of the route to the vampires' lair.

They arrive to find Gordon torturing Lenore using dead man's blood, which is unnaturally painful to vampires. When Gordon confesses that his sister was turned into a vampire and he had to kill her, Dean finally realizes that this hunter isn't a good guy. Gordon tries to change Dean's mind by cutting Sam's arm and showing them how Lenore reacts to the sight of his blood (it's not pretty, all fangs and snarls), but Dean knows the truth. Sam takes Lenore to her friends, while Dean and Gordon fight things out between them. Gordon, of course, ends up on the losing side. Dean ties him to a chair and the Winchester's leave, knowing they've done the right thing in letting the vampires escape. Dean, however, isn't happy thinking back on all the supernatural kills he's made over the years, he's worried that perhaps not all of them were evil. Suddenly, their world isn't so black and white.

WTVZ WASHINGTON

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EPISODE COORDINATES: 002, FF3

Check out this episode's location on your Supernatural map.

What's that? Turn to page 7 for more info!

DAD SO FAR

Red Lodge



INTERVIEW



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TO
CATCH A

THIEF

As the beautiful but corrupt Bela, **LAUREN COHAN** is causing the Winchester brothers no end of trouble during *Supernatural*'s third season. In an exclusive interview with *The Official Supernatural Magazine*, the Philadelphia-born actress reveals what makes this cunning thief tick, as well as sharing some hilarious on-set anecdotes.

It's a long way, both geographically and artistically, from the Edinburgh Fringe Festival to *Supernatural* on The CW. But Lauren Cohan, whose character Bela has brought a freshly amoral spice to the show's third season, is used to long distances. Born in Philadelphia, she spent part of her childhood in New Jersey before moving to England, where she lived until relocating to Los Angeles last year. A graduate of England's University of Winchester, Cohan first started to take career matters into her own hands when she co-founded a theater company on campus.

"We were creating flyers for our first play, and we spent about three days trying to come up with a name," Cohan recalls. "Then we just gave up and called it 204E." Asked what that might stand for, she just laughs.

The company's first play was a gender-bending reimagining of George Bernard Shaw's *Pygmalion*. "We made Eliza Doolittle a man and Henry Higgins a woman," Cohan explains. "We did really well at university with it, and so we took that play to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival for the summer."

Edinburgh turned out to be a great place for a young actor to hone her chops. "It's one of

Words: Alex Irvine



my favorite places," Cohan says, "and we had a dreamy summer. We played all day, and then we'd go home and improv. It was the most amazing time."

Alas, touring theater is no way to make money. "We won awards and did really well, and still came home with absolutely nothing at the end of the summer," Cohan admits. "Then we moved to London, where we started publicizing the show and planning an adaptation of Pamela Hall's children's book *Elanoropoe*. And then I got a film. So that's the long and short of the theater company days."

That film came about as a result of Cohan's previous modeling experience. "I used to do modeling when I was very young," she says, "and I was still friends with the woman who runs the agency. I went to meet with them and they said, 'Why don't we start sending you out for some auditions and see what happens?' And I thought, okay, that will be fun for a little while, but then I was planning to go to drama school... which is the last thing an agent wants to hear, that you're up for auditions but will be taking off in a couple of months." She laughs. "But I didn't know that at the time. You don't know anything until you start going through it."

Within a month of hitting the audition circuit, Cohan landed her first feature, *Young Alexander The Great*. "I went off to Egypt for a month, learned archery, and met some of my greatest friends," she recalls. "And then I got another feature after that, and went to do *Casanova* in Venice!"

It seemed like things were really taking off, but like most actors' careers, Cohan's wasn't without its hiccup. After *Casanova*, she recalls, "I had a year when nothing happened. It probably wasn't helped by the fact that I was going back and forth between L.A. and London. In the meantime, I got offered a couple of terrible horror films, which I refused."

"RUBY
AND
BELA
AREN'T
JUST ARM
CANDY
FOR THE
BOYS."



TRUMP PRODUCED
WITH A LOT OF ENGLISH AND
PROD. FROM WINCHESTER
UNIVERSITY, UK. NO. 100001.

Another offer wasn't so easy to refuse: to play the role of an American roommate for BBC institution *Beal Bush*, a show about a wisecracking puppet fox. "I really wanted to do it, but my agent didn't want me to. The part was an American girl who moves into his apartment and he develops a crush on her." In a kids' show?

"*Beal Bush* is one of those shows that works for kids and also on a much more adult level. This fox is the most naughty character," she says with a laugh. "But I didn't end up doing that, and then I moved to L.A., figuring that if I wanted to do films, I should be in the place where they're all made."





BELA REVEALED

Bela's story so far...

The first time we meet Bela Talbot (*Red Sky At Black Rock*), she's disguised as a waitress who flirts with Sam. Instead of his number however, she's actually after the rabbit's foot he's carrying in his pocket. When the Winchesters discover the theft, they vow to track Bela down. The brothers' search takes them to Queens, New York, where the brunette has an apartment, paid for with the money she earns selling rare occult objects. Dean steals the rabbit's foot back, leading Bela to shoot Sam in a graveyard in a bid to secure her \$1.5 million payday. But Dean tricks her again, and she curses herself by grabbing the foot. Now if she sells it, she'll have bad luck too, so Bela and the boys burn the foot together.

The next time we see Bela she's up to her old tricks, this time pretending to make deals with Sam and Dean in order to get her hands on the haunted remains of a dead sailor (*Red Sky At Morning*). During this episode, we learn that Bela killed a member of her own family, although she refuses to go into details. Then, in *Dream A Little Dream*, Bela once again pulls a fast one on the brothers by stealing — wait for it — the Colt, but not before Sam has a particularly awful dream about her

LA STORY

Not too long after her arrival in L.A., Cohan met casting director Robert Ulrich and casting associate Hannah Cooper for a project that didn't happen. "I'd developed a good relationship with them, though," she says, "and went back to read for Bela in July, and then I came back and met Robert again." This time Eric Kripke was there, too.

"I didn't know that Eric was the creator," Cohan says. "I thought he was another producer, so I wasn't nervous. They had me read Bela with and without the accent, and they seemed very excited. It felt very good, which is always the kiss of death."

Except this time, Cohan called her manager and found out that she'd already been called back in for a screen test.

"Eric came in — by this time I knew who he was — and said, 'Don't worry, you go in there and you rule that room,'" she recalls. "It went well, and I went back in for the network that afternoon, and I wasn't nervous by that point."

After all the auditions and tests, Cohan found out that she'd gotten the role... but the character wasn't certain to be added to the show. "So I was at my waitressing gig for eight days waiting for it to happen," she says. When the wait was over, and she had the job, she recalls telling anyone who would listen, with predictable results: "People gave me quite a lot of business cards."

Fans of the show were initially less than thrilled with the news that two

women were going to be added as recurring characters. Rumors flew that Bela and Ruby were going to be arm candy or sidekicks, and the gushing got pretty intense... until, of course, fans started watching season three and found out exactly what Bela and Ruby were all about.

"I think it's pretty funny that there's been so much blogging and chat among fans about Ruby and Bela," Cohan says. "They're such different characters. First of all, they're not arm candy for the boys, and secondly, they're not in competition with each other or with Sam and Dean, because they're in different areas of the supernatural world. Ruby is a badass hunt-kicking kind of girl, and Bela's not. She's wicked with words, but she's not doing any kind of Kung Fu."

Although Cohan allows, she might have her own rituals. "Maybe Tai Chi? You've got to be centered to do high-class occult thievery."

A little centering might also help when you're dealing with Bela's traumatic family



history, which we begin to discover in *Red Sky At Morning*. Cohan doesn't know all the details, but hints that more will be disclosed in the second half of season three.

"She's definitely not right. I didn't realize how much of a problem she is. She's really just out for herself, and I think she finds the boys' goodness sweet but naive and kind of silly. She doesn't understand why they work how they do, and it doesn't stop her from doing the things she has to."

"She's really damaged," Cohan continues. "I actually don't want to know her backstory yet. Eric asked me, and I didn't want him to tell me." She plans to let the reveal happen to her as the episodes are shot, in much the same way that viewers of the show will experience it.



It's an interesting way to inhabit a character, and one that Cohan wouldn't be able to do without the aerial nature of a TV show. And there are other aspects of TV that she finds affect the way she works. "Coming from feature work, TV is a learning process for me," she says, "largely because of the time constraints. You have a set schedule, and you really have to power through and do the best work you can in the time frame allotted. I really like it, with the different directors and actors coming in, but it's also a little more difficult because you're getting to know different people all the time."

The pressure could be a recipe for disaster, but Cohan says the *Supernatural* set is "like a family. Maybe everybody thinks that about the show they work on, but it's true here. Everyone on the crew is so good at their job, so professional. It's been going for more than two years, and almost everyone has been there from the beginning. It's very carefully thought out and put together," which means that crises come and go quickly because everyone pulls together to deal with them.

"And these boys," she says of Jared and Jensen, "they crack me up. I'm laughing all the time."

Warning to the topic, she tells a story of a recent on-set prank.

"We were shooting in the Winchester safe house [in *Red Sky At Morning*]." Cohan recounts. It's a tense scene, with a maritime menace and no clear path to figuring out what the malevolent force is or how to fight it. The safe house is decrepit and dingy, "and to make it look suitably distressed they have rubbish everywhere," Cohan goes on... including a bunch of mousetraps. "Well, Jared is like a two-year-old. He keeps picking up the mousetraps and throwing them at people, and then he snapped one on his own finger!"



For a moment, she's laughing so hard she can hardly tell the story. "Consequence," she chuckles. "To the nth degree."

AUGHS GALORE

Even when the boys aren't playing their prankster roles, there's plenty of on-set humor. "That same scene in the safe house, there's a moment when I'm sitting and I stand up to say something and then I have to turn around and walk away," Cohan says. Off camera, a crew member moves her chair out of the way so she doesn't have to worry about it when she turns to go.

"They reminded me not to sit down," she recounts, but then she didn't like the take, and was so focused on the scene that she wanted to go again right away. "I stand up, say 'You can't just leave me here,' and then I wanted to do it again, and I'm sitting, and I realize that it's already too late, and all of us are looking at each other knowing that there's nothing we can do about it. And it was made all the funnier because it was such an emotional scene. I couldn't do it again for 10 minutes because I was laughing so hard."

Will that one make it onto the end-of-season blooper reel?

"I don't know," she says. "All you can see on camera is my head dropping out of frame, and then everyone starts laughing."

Having regular work has meant that Cohan can be a little picky about



what other jobs she's looking for. "I'm just starting to get back into auditions," she says. "My managers and I are trying to see if it's possible to do films

in between episodes, which is really tricky. I'll have two weeks off, three on, then maybe three days working in the middle of an off period." She's also looking for TV guest spots and other similar gigs.

"But I'm also getting caught on the theater thing again," she says, a little wistfully, which brings us full circle. While she was waiting for lightning to strike after her move to L.A., Cohan got involved in the Ruskin Theater Group, which does an ongoing series of 24-hour plays in Santa Monica. "The writers meet in the morning," she explains, "and they write a play. The actors come in at 12 noon, rehearse, and then perform at seven o'clock in a café theater. It's exhilarating, and quite terrifying."

The café plays also keep Cohan in touch with her theatrical roots. "I did three or four Shakespeare plays a year in university, and then the touring work, and then went two and a half years without doing anything before starting to work with the Ruskin group. It's a great way of exercising my theater muscle."

"There's a play I might do by one of the writers from the café plays," continues Cohan, when asked about her next move. Meanwhile, her latest feature (*Floot*) is in post-production, probably to appear next year. Right now, though, she's back off to the *Supernatural* set. Maybe she'll find out today what Bela's dark family secret is. Or maybe she'll wait so it's as much of a surprise to her as it will be to us. ☘



SL



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ILLUSTRATIONS BY JEFFREY DEAN MORGAN AND JARED PADALECKI

From the anally retentive Ash to rampaging zombies, the *Supernatural* universe is a weird and wonderful place. Here, in handy A-Z format, we present the ultimate guide to Sam and Dean's world!

A is for Ash
Mullet-haired computer genius fond of sleeping on pool tables and doing unknown things in his room with no pants on. Sadly met a fiery end in the blaze that engulfed Harvelle's Roadhouse, but not before providing a vital clue to help the Winchesters defeat the Yellow-Eyed Demon.



B is for Bobby
Gruff, no-nonsense hunter with a million tricks up his sleeve and a soft center few people get to see. Used to have a dog named Rumsfeld until demon Meg committed doggycide. Now lives close, with frequent visits from Dean and Sam (occasionally carrying demons of their own).



C is for Colt
Mystical weapon forged by Samuel Colt at the end of the 19th century; the only thing capable of killing a demon stone cold dead. Unfortunately, Colt wasn't exactly generous with the bullets – the final one (of only 13) ended up in the heart of the Yellow-Eyed Demon.

THE A TO Z OF SUPERNATURAL

F is for Fantasy World
After some funky mojo from a Djinn, Dean found himself in a fantasy world in which his mom never died, and Jessica and Sam were engaged. Bravely, Dean gave it all up to come back to the real world. We're not sure we would have!



D
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D is for Dean

Demon-hunting older Winchester brother with a penchant for vibrating beds, food, and killing anything that looks at Sam funny. Not big on relationships — unless they're with his weapons — but fond of one-night stands. Some would say he loves his car a little too much.

E is for Ellen

The ex-boss of Harvelle's Roadhouse and the mother of Sassy Jo. The death of Ellen's husband was apparently caused by John Winchester (circumstances unconfirmed). Ellen can hold her own in any situation and is one of the few women on the planet who scares Dean Winchester.



NATURAL

Words: Jayne Nelson

G is for Grave Digging

With much of their chosen career dependent on the selling-and-burning of corpses, the Winchesters spend a lot of time in graveyards digging up coffins. Usually in the middle of the night. When it's raining. It's not all glamor when you're a hunter, you know.



SUPERNATURAL





H is for Henriksen

Like Mr. McGee to the incredible Hulk's Bruce Banner, FBI Agent Victor Henriksen is the good guy on the trail of the bad guys... except we know it's the other way around. With the Winchesters wanted for everything from bank robbery to grave desecration, Henriksen must be very, very puzzled.

J is for John Winchester

The scourge of supernatural entities across the land, John raised his boys to be as good as hunting as he was (and that's damn good) while on the trail of the Yellow-Eyed Demon who killed his wife. John might have fallen during his crusade, but his mission was fulfilled.



I is for Impala

The third Winchester family member, this 1967 Chevrolet Impala houses an arsenal of weaponry in her trunk (yes, her - Dean certainly thinks she's female) and a lifetime of memories. She also came back from a crash that would've totaled even KITT from Knight Rider, although Dean helped a bit.

K is for Killer Clown

Apparently, clowns kill. We've suspected it for years. They're especially deadly when they're rakshasas in disguise: nasty creatures who like to eat people while pretending to be knife-throwers at carnivals. And hey, did you know that Sam cried whenever he saw Ronald McDonald on TV growing up?



L is for Lawrence, Kansas

Dean and Sam's birthplace; the location of the only home they've ever known. Dean swore never to return until Sam had a vision of a woman in trouble at their old house, forcing them to perform a rather unorthodox exorcism with the help of the spirit of their dead mom...



M is for Motels

Nights in the (usually grubby) motel rooms that litter America's highways are paid for with fake credit cards or the money Dean earns hustling pool. They're often grungy, but still preferable to sleeping in the car. Especially with Sam's long legs.

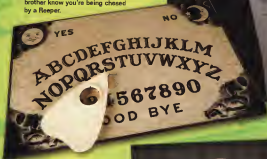
N is for NaCl

That's salt to you and me. Used for protection (it will keep spirits at bay) and attack (a shotgun loaded with rock salt won't kill a ghost, but it does dissipate it for a while), it's the weapon no hunter should be without. Good on fries, too.





O is for **Ouija Board**
A board with the alphabet printed on the surface and a special pointer doohickey that's perfect for allowing spirits to communicate with the living. Also handy if, like Dean, you're stuck in a coma and want to let your brother know you're being chased by a Reeper.



Q is for **Questionable Decisions**
So your little brother's dead and the only way you can bring him back is to make a deal with a demon involving your soul, one more year of your life, and the knowledge that you can't try to sneak out of the bargain. Ouch...

R is for **Reaper**
You may have been told not to fear them, but **THEY ARE OUT TO KILL YOU.** Alright, so some turn up to give you a peaceful transition to the Other Side, but others – particularly when under someone's control – just want to suck out your life force...

P is for **Psychic**
1) Missouri Moseley, who helped John after Mary's death. 2) Any one of a number of kids who were chosen by the Yellow-Eyed Demon for a super-powered smackdown. Symptoms include visions, invulnerability, and the power to skewer stepmothers with kitchen knives just by thinking about it.



S is for **Sam**
Impossibly tall, puppy dog-eyed younger Winchester brother with Special Psychic Powers™ who recently spent a short time dead. Sam used to want a normal life but learned to accept his destiny after the death of his father and some unfortunate love affairs. Doesn't drive much.



T is for Trickster

Cheeky tormentor with possible origins in Scandinavia (where he was known as Loki) or Africa (as Anansi). He likes to play mean practical jokes involving aliens, alligators, and supermodels who can beat up Dean. Apparently defeated, he may yet have one more trick up his sleeve...



U is for Unicorn

Thanks to Dean, we can all rest assured that they don't exist and rainbows don't shoot out their asses. For some reason, this seemed to come as a surprise to Sam, who, we suspect, may have been faking his stunned reaction to humor his brother.



W is for Werewolf

Dangerous predator that surfaces during a full moon while its (often unsuspecting) host is fast asleep. There is no cure for lycanthropy, to give it its official name—a fact that was bad news for the lovely Madison when she discovered her furry alter ego...

V is for Vampire

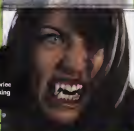
Bloodsucking species famed for feeding on humans, partying all night, and being rather difficult to kill. A few vamps have embraced a more peaceful life, choosing cow's blood over our own (although the cows aren't that impressed), but the majority are Evil with a capital E.

X is for Xorcism (work with us here, okay?)

Not just a way to put an end to a haunting, but also a ritual you can use to expel a demon from the person it's possessing. Most demons tend to put up a bit of a fight, which is where the rather handy devil's trap comes in.

Y is for Yellow-Eyed Demon

The creature who kick-started the Winchester family's hunting career by killing Mary Winchester and also, years later, Sam's girlfriend Jessica. Finally defeated by Dean, Sam, and the spirit of their father outside a gate to Hell—hey, it's as good a place as any, right?



Z is for Zombie

Bringing somebody back from the dead is fraught with danger, so Neil Levine discovered when he revived his best friend Angela (she killed him, the ungrateful girl). "What's dead should stay dead," Dean told him. He really doesn't listen to his own advice, does he?



100

return to sender

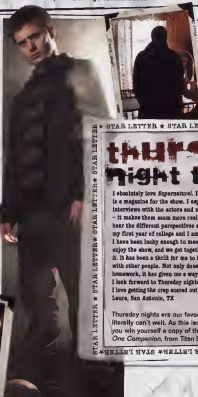
The Winchester boy might have no fixed address, but The Official Supernatural Magazine does, and we want your letters. Feedback, burning questions, and even criticism are all welcome. Just go easy on the last one for we'll get it skinned off you. If you're a US reader, send your queries, comments, and artwork to: *Supernatural Letters*, PMB #1-296, 8205 Santa Monica Blvd. West Hollywood CA 90046-5977. Everyone else please write to: *Supernatural Letters*, 144 Southwick Street, South SE1 0UP or email: supernaturalmag@btinternet.com.



**born to
be wild**

I'm *fin* Supernatural has finally gotten a magazine. I have been a fan of the show since it first came on television. The whole idea for the show is great; you get two of the best actors to play the leads, and the writing for each of the individual episodes is just amazing. My favorite episode was *Born Bad* and *Bad* because it gave the viewers a glimpse of what it would be like if Sam turned evil. Even though he was possessed by a demon, I was glad to see him acting out of character. I just wanted to write and say thank you for publishing this magazine. I won't miss an issue. Keep up the great work. Anthony Talbot, TN

You're more than welcome, Anthony. *Born Under A Bad Sign* is terrific, but we think our favorite Sam episode has to be *Bad Day At Black Rock*. Seeing him lose his shoe had us crying with laughter, and don't even get us started on Deen's "I'm Batman" one-liner. Pure genius!



**OUR STAR
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COMPANION!**

**thursday
night thrills**

I'm absolutely into Supernatural. I'm so excited that there is a magazine for the show. I especially like reading interviews with the actors and other people involved. It makes them seem more real, and it's interesting to hear the different perspectives about the show. I am in my first year of college and I am generally a shy person. I have been lucky enough to meet some friends who also enjoy the show, and we get together each week to watch it. It has been a thrill for me to have something to share with other people. Not only does it give me a break from homework, it has given me a way to make some good friends. I look forward to Thursday nights more than any other. I love getting the crap scared out of me once a week! Laura, San Antonio, TX

Thursday nights are our favorites too, Laura. We literally can't wait. As this issue's star letter writer, you win yourself a copy of the *Supernatural Season One Companion*, from Titan Books. Enjoy!



**thursday
night thrills**

I absolutely love *Supernatural*. I am so excited that there is a magazine for the show. I especially like reading interviews with the actors and other people involved — it makes them seem more real, and it's interesting to hear the different perspectives about the show. I am in my first year of college and I am generally a shy person. I have been lucky enough to meet some friends who also enjoy the show, and we get together each week to watch it. It has been a thrill for me to have something to share with other people. Not only does it give me a break from homework, it has given me a way to make some good friends. I look forward to Thursday nights more than any other. I love getting the crap scared out of me once a week!

Laure, San Antonio, TX

Thursday nights are our favorite too, Laura. We literally can't wait. As this issue's star letter writer, you win yourself a copy of the *Supernatural* Season One Companion, from Titan Books. Enjoy!

**awesome
impact**

When I saw your magazine on the newsstand, I couldn't believe it, *Supernatural's* the best show on TV. The article about the Impala was excellent! Maybe you should do one about the Colt next? Or how about a run-down of all the demons the guys have taken out already? That'd be cool. Great show, great magazine - keep up the good work! Jason, via email

Look out for our Hunter Handbook next issue. Jason There'll be demons galore!



things that go bump

I love *Supernatural* Magazine! I don't usually read magazines cover-to-cover, but yours is the exception, because I love the show so much. Thanks so much for doing the interview and posters of Sam and Dean. I can never decide who I like the most. I definitely believe in the supernatural - the house I live in is really old, and even has its own ghost! Do you think the Winchester brothers might come and deal with it for me?

Mills, Kent, UK



Maybe if you ask them really nicely, Millie.

FAN BAROMETER

What's hot and what's not in the Supernatural universe. According to you...

proliferating in today's market's stock

Leaving a healthy rabbit's foot

Catching your brother
spending quality time with
the Continental Twins.

Dropping your head
down a drain

Exaggerating and a report of
... ..

African Dream Book

Spending quality

Work club

Considered the Nation's

Having one year

HOT

NOT

POSSIBLE EXPLANATION

Sadly, both best-selling author Joy Anson and the DeFao defense team have admitted that the entire haunting was fabricated, and that the Lutz family willingly took part in the deception in exchange for a substantial fee. Many, however, believe that the events that took place in 112 Ocean Avenue cannot be explained away that simply.

fact
fiction

Yarns designed to keep the little 'uns quiet, or something more sinister in origin? Each issue we delve into the world of the strange to bring you a tale so terrifying you'll struggle to sleep at night. This time it's the story of America's most haunted house...

112 Ocean Avenue, New York, is one of America's most famous addresses. Better known as the Amityville Horror house, 112 is notorious for its supernatural activity, which began and ended in the 1970s. Starting in November 1974 with the brutal murders of the DeFeo family by their eldest son, it was originally believed that DeFeo was a sadistic killer, but events the next year would eventually provide another potential explanation for his sudden murder spree, spawning a best-selling novel.

George and Kathy Lutz moved into 112 Ocean Avenue in December 1975, and immediately noticed strange goings on. They decided to have the house blessed after the previous year's horrors, but when they performed the blessing, they heard a male voice telling him to get out, and urged the Lutz family not to see the room as a bedroom. While unpacking a couple of days later, something startled the family dog, who was tied to a fence in the backyard. In his eagerness to escape, the dog tried to jump the fence and ended up hanging himself. Inside the house the stench of bile permeated every room, green algae oozed from the walls, the toilets turned black, black goo dripped through the keyholes, household appliances randomly turned on and off, footprints could be heard throughout the house, locked doors would slam, and hundreds of flies occupied one of the rooms.

Things only got worse. The entire family suffered severe mood swings and personality changes, as well as nightmares. The Lutzes got so desperate that they took to reciting the Lord's Prayer in the house in the hopes of scaring away the evil spirits. After a few weeks, strange apparitions began to appear, shadows moved around the house, and they saw pairs of eyes staring at them from inside the other rooms. In frustration, Kathy Lutz threw a chair at the eyes - and heard the squeal of a pig.

After just 20 days in their new home, the Luzy family decided to leave — immediately. As they were leaving the house for the final time, the walls began to move back and forth, making a terrifying growling sound. As George Luzy ran down the stairs, the ghost of a young boy appeared on the second floor landing, pointing at him. The family left the house with whatever they could carry and never went back. The evil spirits were never heard from again...

Fact or fiction? You decide!

Words: Emma, Matthew

SUPERNATURAL

The author of this novel, *The Two Faces of Fear*, Jay Friedman, died after receiving a million-dollar advance for the book. The author of the novel was on the *Money* list. Friedman also died in mysterious circumstances, possibly over a kidnapping.

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Ask Eric!

Every issue, *Supernatural's* creator ERIC KRIKPE will be answering a selection of fan questions

posed to him by *The Official Supernatural Magazine*. Hot topics this month include the writers strike and its effects on season three, the show's longevity, and the scariest urban legend EVER...



Are Sam and Dean based on anyone you know?

Natalie, Big Spring, TX

Eric says: Yes, they are. At least in the beginning of the series, there was a lot of myself in Sam. I'm a little brother; I have a close relationship with my big brother, who stayed in the family business, while I, the black sheep of the family, moved out to California. So I related to what Sam was going through. However, since then, Sam has taken on a life of his own, and we don't share nearly as much in common. For instance, I never came back from the dead, nor am I central to a mysterious demonic conspiracy. (Or am I...?)

Dean is a composite of several people. My big brother Matt, of course, but also my best friends Ben and James. They're all basically my brothers. And Ben, especially, is quite the smart ass, and couldn't care less what other people think. Character traits that, obviously, Dean possesses in spades.



What's your favorite Supernatural episode so far, and why?

Andrew, Redding, CA

Eric says: It's difficult for me to choose only one. They're all sort of like my children, even the flawed, distorted, awful, misbehaving ones... and I love them all. However, if I was forced to choose, I would probably pick the following: *Faith*, because that was my first glimpse that the show had the potential to go deeper -- to be more -- than I had ever originally dreamed. *Crossroad Blues*,

because of my passion for the Robert Johnson legend, and my sheer joy at being able to expose the general public to that classic American story. And *Nightshifter*, because it's just a damn good story well told.

And for the record, just so you don't think I view my show through rose-colored glasses, here are the episodes I really DON'T like: *Hookman*, *Bugs*, *Route 666*, *No Exit*, and *Red Sky At Morning*.



If you could put Sam and Dean into any horror movie, which one would it be?

Jayne, London, UK

Eric says: I would put Sam and Dean into *An American Werewolf In London*, I suppose, because that's my all-time favorite monster movie, and it possesses the scary-funny-real tone that we most try to emulate. I think Sam and Dean would fit quite seamlessly into that movie.

What can you tell us about the second half of season three?

Zoe, Bangor, ME

Eric says: Difficult to answer this question, sadly, because at the moment, the Writers Guild is on strike, and the longer it continues, the greater the danger that there won't BE a second half of season three. All of the writers and producers are despondent over this. We love the show, and the only thing we want is to get back to work!



How many more seasons do you see *Supernatural* running for?

Jeevan, Rolla, MO

We have a plan in place for five seasons. After that, who knows? Personally, I want the show to end with season five. When you're telling a story, it's so much better to know when the end is coming, so you can plan for it and build to it. If *Supernatural* goes into season six, seven, and beyond, you can expect a lot of weddings, clip shows, Hawaii vacations, and other shark-jumping activities. But I think Jared, Jensen, Bob, and I would rather go out with a bang with season five, and then go home and sleep for a year.

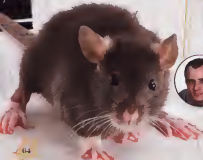
What's the scariest urban legend you've come across?

Neil, Glasgow, Scotland

Erie says: I always thought the Hookman urban legend was the scariest. Which is ironic, considering I thought our

Hookman episode was fairly lame and anemic.

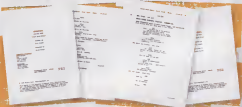
My favorite urban legend, though, has got to be the one where a tourist brings home a Chilbushua from a vacation to Mexico, only to learn they inadvertently adopted a giant sewer rat, which proceeds to tear the family cat to shreds. It'd be kind of hard to modify into an episode of *Supernatural*, however.



What scares you?

Rona, Pendleton, OR

Erie says: Studio and network notes. And tight deadlines.



Crunch question, do you believe in the supernatural?

Darryl, Flint, MI

Erie says: I'd like to believe. I have to say, I've never had any word or supernatural experience whatsoever, so I guess I'm probably a skeptic. You'd think with all the decorations and Latin chanting and exorcisms I write every day, that I'd be a target for that kind of thing. And it would be comforting to know that life continues after death, but so far, I haven't seen anything of the sort.



Ask Eric!

Do you have a question for *Supernatural*'s creator? Send your queries to Ask Eric! *Supernatural* Magazine, P.O. Box 81-296, 8200 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood CA 90461-3277 or email: ezsupernaturalmag@titanicmail.com

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Guy Talk

Who you gonna call?

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Dear Sam & Dean,

For the last few months I've been having the most vivid dreams about... um, well, let's just say I'm in bed with this gorgeous woman and we're doing the horizontal foxtrot. And it's amazing! Trouble is, she always turns into a hideous, cackling old crone at the end, and I wake up in a cold sweat. I'm sure I recognize her, too. Am I being haunted?

Paul, Macon, GA



Dean says: It could be a succubus—a female demon who comes to you while you sleep and steals your energy. According to some legends, succubi can't reproduce, so they attack men in order to steal their seed and impregnate other women. They're dangerous creatures, but the good news is that they can be fended off by surrounding your bed with salt and hanging a驱魔catcher over it. However, because you didn't mention feeling paralyzed, there's a chance this is just a recurring nightmare. Most victims wake up and find they can't move during an attack.

Dean says: If he's got dollars to donate the old woman is your mom. Do you watch pore cleansers before you go to bed? Your inner guilt is popping up in your dreams. Betta tryin'g. But the salt and驱魔catcher would be a good idea, just in case.



Dear Sam & Dean,

I think my station wagon is haunted!

Since I bought it from a secondhand car dealer

a few months ago I've had three accidents, all of them caused when the wheels started to move by themselves. It's like it has a mind of its own! What can I do?

Jason, Richmond, IN



Dean says: I assume you've already had it checked out at a garage? If there's nothing wrong with it, there's a chance it could be a spirit.

People tend to think only old houses and graveyards can be haunted, but the truth is that just about anything can house a ghost. I'd suggest you research your car's history: was it ever involved in a fatal accident?

If so, the victim's spirit may be riding around with you, unable to move on, and that could be very dangerous. Don't drive it until you know, and if you find evidence of a death, give us a call.



Dean says: A station wagon? Seriously dude, forget the ghost. Take it to the junkyard and get yourself a real car. I hear '82 is a good year.

Dear Dean & Sam,

My little girl keeps telling me there's a monster in her closet. I've told her a million times there isn't, and I even bought her a nightlight, but she still insists it's there. I'm fed up with her climbing into bed with me every night because she's scared. Could she be right, or is she just going through a phase?

Marion, Boston, MA



Dean says: This is quite a common problem, especially around Halloween, but might hint that there's more going on than another American kid with hundreds of bedtime wish-washers. If you ask me, that little was just damn suspicious! Have you ever anything is wrong? Is her closet cold for no reason? If so, I'd suggest salt in front of the door to stop whatever it is from wrapping and it's not that bad a job. Dean says: Just don't give her a 404. Dean says: That's right, a shotgun is a better idea if your wee lass is that great. Dean says: That's not just a good idea, Dean says: That's not just a good idea, Dean says: That's not just a good idea.

Those creatures that exist in folklore, superstitions, and nightmares—

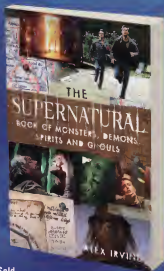
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